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COURSE BROCHURE

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Training Course

30 August – 3 September 2027
Vienna

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Registered in the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Training Course

Ref: 2724_104067 **Date:** 30 August – 3 September 2027 **Location:** Vienna **Fees:** 5900 GBP

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice is a 1-week training course for conservators and restorers of heritage objects who assess, treat and record collection items, and who leave with a case documentation portfolio for one object. Museums, archives and private owners now expect every intervention to be justified, reversible where possible and fully recorded. Jupiter Prime Training delivers Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice for practitioners from many organisations.

Why Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Matters Now

Three groups shape the work of conservator-restorers today. Collection owners and insurers want clear evidence of an object's condition before loans, sales and exhibitions. Curators and the public expect treatments that respect the original material and the object's history. Peers and employers increasingly judge practitioners on the quality of their case records rather than on finished results alone. A practitioner who handles this well earns trust and wins commissions; one who handles it badly risks irreversible damage and disputes over responsibility. The course rests on the principles of minimal intervention, reversibility and honest documentation.

Who Gains Most from Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice

- Practitioners who examine objects and write condition reports
- Restorers who propose and carry out treatments on paintings, textiles, metals or ceramics
- Collection care staff who control light, humidity, pests and handling
- Registrars who prepare objects for loans, transport and display
- Independent studio owners who quote, contract and record private commissions

A museum conservation studio gains most when its conservators and collection care staff attend together.

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Capabilities

Participants move from examining an object to defending each treatment decision in writing.

- Assess object condition using visual, magnified and raking-light examination — the treatment brief
- Design a treatment proposal with options, risks and expected outcomes — the owner's consent
- Weigh the ethics of cleaning, filling and retouching — the integrity of the original
- Specify environmental and handling controls for preventive conservation — the collection care routine
- Build photographic and written treatment records — the future conservator of the object
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Communicate findings to curators, owners and insurers — the loan or exhibition decision

Key Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Terms

- Condition report — a structured record of an object's materials, damage and stability at a stated moment
- Treatment proposal — a written plan setting out the intended intervention, its reasons, risks and alternatives
- Reversibility — the principle that materials added during treatment can later be removed without harming the original
- Minimal intervention — doing only what is needed to stabilise or present an object, and no more
- Preventive conservation — actions that slow deterioration by controlling environment, handling, storage and display
- Retouching — applying removable colour only to areas of loss so that damage reads less strongly

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Day by Day

Day 1: The Profession and Its Ethics

- Professional Codes of Ethics for Conservator-Restorers — Limits of Acceptable Intervention
- Roles of Conservator, Curator and Owner — Who Decides on Treatment
- Material Significance and Object History — What Must Be Kept
- Case Studies From Museum and Private Collections — Lessons From Past Treatments
- Scope of Competence and Referral — When to Call a Specialist

Day 2: Examination and Condition Assessment

- Visual, Magnified and Raking-Light Examination — Evidence of Damage and Alteration
- Ultraviolet and Infrared Imaging Basics — Hidden Repairs and Underdrawing
- Material Identification by Simple Tests — Choice of Safe Treatment Materials
- Condition Report Structure and Terminology — Clear Record for Owners and Insurers
- Damage Mapping on Photographs and Diagrams — Priority Areas for Treatment

Day 3: Treatment Proposals and Intervention

- Treatment Options and Risk Comparison — Recommendation to the Owner
- Cleaning Tests and Solvent Selection — Safe Removal of Dirt and Varnish
- Consolidation, Filling and Retouching Choices — Stability Versus Appearance
- Testing Reversibility of Adhesives and Fillers — Future Re-Treatment
- Consent, Estimates and Change Records — Agreement Before and During Work

Day 4: Preventive Conservation and Collection Care

- Light, Humidity and Temperature Monitoring — Display and Storage Limits
- Integrated Pest Management Routines — Early Detection of Infestation
- Handling, Packing and Transport Procedures — Safe Loans and Moves
- Storage Mounts and Display Supports — Long-Term Physical Stability
- Emergency Salvage Planning for Collections — Response to Water and Fire

Day 5: Practising the Case Documentation Portfolio

- Applying Condition Assessment to a Chosen Object — Baseline Record
- Applying Treatment Proposal Writing to the Object — Owner Consent Draft
- Applying Preventive Care Advice to the Object — Aftercare Instructions
- Peer Review of Records and Photographs — Clarity for Future Conservators
- Case Documentation Portfolio for One Object — Professional Practice Evidence

Applying Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice After the Course

- Rewrite the studio condition report template using the structure and terminology practised on the course
- Complete a full case documentation file for the next object treated, including reversibility tests

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice Questions FAQ

What is conservator-restorer professional practice and why does it matter now?

Conservator-restorer professional practice is the ethical, documented way of examining, treating and caring for heritage objects. It matters now because owners, insurers and peers expect every intervention to be justified, recorded and as reversible as possible.

Which roles gain most from conservator-restorer professional practice?

Conservators, restorers and collection care staff gain most, along with registrars who prepare objects for loans. You benefit most if you examine, treat or advise on heritage objects in a museum, archive or private studio.

How does a conservator-restorer professional practice course differ from a single-material restoration course?

It covers the professional side of conservation across materials. A single-material course teaches bench techniques for one material, while this course works through ethics, condition reporting, treatment proposals, preventive care and case documentation.

What do you bring back from conservator-restorer professional practice training?

You bring back a case documentation file for one object. It holds the condition report, damage maps, treatment proposal, test results and aftercare advice, ready to show owners, employers or peers.

Conservator-Restorer Professional Practice: The Way Forward

The case documentation portfolio first informs whether a proposed treatment can go ahead with the owner's consent. Conservators use it to plan and record work, while curators and registrars use it for loan and display decisions. After its first use, revisit the reversibility tests and aftercare advice, since materials and display conditions change over time.